

Contact: Tom Cook 406-444-1645 Release: Receipt

MONTANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOSTS GALA MEMBERSHIP DAY

Behind the scenes tours, special museum guided tours, door prizes, Museum Store sale items, and much more highlight the Montana Historical Society's "Membership Day" Thursday, Nov. 4, from 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

"November 8th is the 121st anniversary of Montana's statehood. We chose Nov. 4th as a special time to celebrate our great Society members, as well as to show others the benefits of becoming a member or giving a gift of membership. Join in on the fun and educational opportunities Society membership brings," Society Membership Coordinator Rebecca Baumann said.

Admission will be free and open to all that day, with members -- and those who become members that day -- entitled to special benefits.

Events begin at 10 a.m. with a day-long display of historic newspapers, maps, historic photographs, and other items from the Research Center's nationally known collections, with staff on hand to answer questions. An educational, hands-on footlocker also will be set up in the library.

The Museum Store opens at 10 a.m. with sales items including Charles M. Russell prints and other materials like posters highlighting the Museum's Glacier Park Centennial exhibit. One of the many benefits of membership is a 15 percent discount in the store all year long.

A scavenger hunt to locate items in the Mackay Gallery of Charles M. Russell Art, the Montana Homeland, and the Neither Empty Nor Unknown: Montana at the Time of Lewis and Clark exhibits will go on all day with winners receiving prizes.

At 11 a.m. Society State Historic Preservation Office National Register Coordinator John Boughton will present an informative workshop, "How to Research Your Historic Property."

At 10a.m., noon, 3 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. staff will offer special guided museum tours.

Society members and those who become members that day will get behind the scenes tours of the Society including stops in the artifact storage area, the art vault, archives and library stacks at 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. Please call 406-444-2918 to reserve a time slot as the tours are limited to 20 people per tour.

Society historian Ellen Baumlert will be available to sign copies of her new book published by the Montana Historical Society Press, "Montana Moments: History on the Go," from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. and again from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Baumlert, Ellie Arguimbau, and Brian Shovers also will be signing copies the press' other new book "Montana Place Names: Zortman to Alzada."

Members and those who become members that day can sign up for door prizes until 7 p.m. Tea and cookies will be served from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.